

Parise—a Prior Lake, MN, native—tied the game with under a minute to play. Sadly for us, Canada would end up scoring in overtime to win the gold medal. But that cannot take away from what was truly a golden performance by the Americans. Jamie Langenbrunner, from Cloquet, did a stand-up job as captain, leading and pulling together a team that also included Minnesotans Erik Johnson, from Bloomington, and David Backes, from Blaine.

The American women's ice hockey team was expected to be great. And they were. Before falling to Canada, they had outscored their opponents 40–2. With Edina native Natalie Darwitz as captain, as well as Jenny Potter from Edina and Gigi Marvin from Warroad, they brought home a well-earned silver medal.

And of the 12 members of the U.S. Olympic curling team, 8 are from Minnesota. Natalie Nicholson of Bemidji and Allison Pottinger of Eden Prairie were on the women's team. The men's team was an all-Minnesota affair with John Shuster and Jason Smith of Chisholm, Chris Plys and Jeff Isaacson of Duluth and John Benton of St. Michael. Even their coach, Phil Drobnick is from Eveleth, MN.

Tony Benshoof of White Bear Lake is an Olympic luger. Kaylin Richardson of Edina was in her second Olympics, competing in alpine skiing. Wynn Roberts of Battle Lake was a competitor in the biathlon. Rebekah Bradford of Apple Valley is an Olympic speedskater. And Caitlin Compton and Garrett Kuzzy, each of Minneapolis, competed in cross-country skiing.

And there are many other Olympic athletes, like Lindsey Vonn, who have strong Minnesota ties but reside now in other States—which have mountains.

Yesterday marked the end of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver. I am so proud to see that there were more athletes in this year's Olympics from Minnesota than from any other State. Twenty-one Minnesotans took part in these games. Most were in their first Olympics. A few others were in their second Games. Natalie Darwitz has been to three. Jenny Potter has now been to four, winning a medal every time. Isn't that something—four-time medal-winning Olympian and mother of two.

Twenty-one athletes from all over Minnesota who now will be going back to tending a bar or being a teacher or being an engineer or a mom. Natalie Nicholson will return to Red Lake Indian Reservation as a nurse practitioner. The men's ice hockey players will be going back to finish the National Hockey League season. John Shuster will be getting married. All will continue to inspire us.

I congratulate every single one of these competitors. Each has shown tremendous grit and determination to earn a place representing our Nation at these Winter Olympics. Whether you won a medal, or simply gave it your all

and competed, each of you is a champion.

Olympians make the children of our State and Nation dream of what they might do, and grownups like me dream of what we wish we could do, all while fulfilling their dreams on the world's stage and representing our Nation admirably. We owe them thanks for their hard work, their perseverance, and most of all their heart. And I hope I have the chance in the coming weeks to meet with each of these Minnesota athletes so I can congratulate them in person.

#### RECOGNIZING JESSE WHITE TUMBLERS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise to congratulate a well-loved Chicago institution on a landmark anniversary.

For 50 years, the Jesse White Tumblers troupe has delighted audiences in Illinois and beyond and opened doors of opportunity for thousands of young people.

Jesse White, the man who gave the team its name, is probably best known today as Illinois' secretary of state and the first African American ever elected to statewide office in the "Land of Lincoln."

As a child, Jesse White was studious and well behaved. He was also a phenomenal athlete. His passion for sports won him a scholarship to Alabama State University, where he was all-conference in baseball and basketball for all 4 years.

After college, Jesse White served 2 years in the U.S. Army as a paratrooper.

Then sports opened another door for him. Jesse White was able to fulfill what for many of us is only a dream. He played professional baseball for the Chicago Cubs Triple-A farm team.

Returning to Chicago after his baseball days, Jesse White decided to become a Chicago Public Schools teacher. He also worked nights as a physical education teacher for the Chicago Park District.

In 1959, the park district asked him to create an acrobatic show. The result was so impressive that the troupe began performing on a regular basis. Its mission was—and remains—to keep children in school, off of drugs, and out of gangs in the Chicago area. And it has been a huge success.

A half century later, more than 11,000 young people have participated in the Jesse White Tumblers. Becoming a Jesse White Tumbler is no easy task. Thousands of young people apply every year but only a fraction are chosen. To make the team, members must stay in school and maintain at least a C average. They have to obey the law and stay out of gangs and away from drugs and alcohol. In exchange, the young athletes get to experience the excitement and glory of performing before appreciative fans. They also receive tutoring and college scholarship opportu-

nities, performance fees, and a chance to travel and perform around the world.

The power of the Jesse White Tumblers to transform young lives and open new doors may be best illustrated by the story of three brothers. They performed together with the Tumblers, but at some point they decided together to drop out and join a gang. One of the brothers was murdered by a rival gang. The second brother, seeking to avenge his brother's death, killed an innocent man by mistake and ended up going to jail for murder. Instead of following in his brothers' footsteps, the third brother decided to rejoin the Jesse White Tumblers. The direction and discipline he received helped him not only avoid the pitfalls of his siblings but helped him earn a college education and eventually a law degree from the University of Notre Dame.

Multiply that story hundreds or even thousands of times and you begin to understand the importance of the Jesse White Tumblers.

The Jesse White Tumblers have earned their reputation as an icon in the State of Illinois. The program has done wonders, and I wish it another 50 years of continued success.

#### LIBRARY OF CONGRESS OFFICE IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, as my colleagues are aware, the Library of Congress, LOC, diligently works to keep the Congress fully informed on a plethora of issues. Today I would like to highlight the important work of a component of the LOC that is less known to colleagues, and that is its operation in Southeast Asia. The work of this regional operation immensely contributes to U.S. understanding of Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, China and India, thereby facilitating our foreign policy objectives.

The LOC office is one of six overseas offices operated by the Overseas Operations Division of the LOC. Staff to the overseas offices "acquire, catalog, preserve and distribute library and research materials . . . and provide assistance to the U.S. Congress."

For too many Americans, Southeast Asia is a distant unknown. In reality, the region is of significant economic importance to the American people. The approximately 580-million citizens—and consumers—of the 10 nations comprising the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN, represent the fourth largest market for American exports.

Based in Jakarta, the mission of the LOC regional operation is diverse. Primary among its responsibilities is to provide research and information services to the U.S. Congress and the Congressional Research Service. Jakarta LOC staff also manage the Cooperative Acquisitions Program, CAPSEA, whereby they acquire materials from countries in the region on behalf of the LOC and member institutions, which